

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT
COOK INLET AREA STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD JIG SEASON CLOSES AND
PARALLEL PACIFIC COD JIG SEASON OPENS JUNE 10
EO # 2-GF-H-08-12**

The Cook Inlet Area state-waters Pacific cod season will close to jig gear at 12:00 noon June 10 and a parallel Pacific cod season will open to jig gear at 12:00 noon June 10, 2012 to coincide with the season dates established by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for the federal Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) area. The parallel Pacific cod jig season will close by emergency order when NMFS closes Pacific cod fishing with jig gear in the CGOA. Fishermen participating in the state-waters Pacific cod fishery must deliver their harvest prior to participating in the parallel season and fish must be landed within 24 hours following the state-waters jig season closure. Fishermen are also reminded to obtain a Cook Inlet Non-Exclusive Area Registration from ADF&G prior to fishing.

Regulation 5 AAC 28.365 requires full retention of all rockfish caught, sets a rockfish bycatch allowance of 10% during directed Pacific cod fisheries, and requires any rockfish bycatch overage to be reported as such on the fish ticket. No rockfish landing or combination of landings may exceed the 5-day trip limits of 4,000 pounds from the North Gulf District and 1,000 pounds from the Cook Inlet District. Fishermen are reminded that lingcod may not be retained prior to July 1.

The Cook Inlet Area state-waters Pacific cod season opened to jig gear at 12:00 noon, March 7, 2012 with a 706,000 lb jig allocation. Jig harvest to date is approximately 190,000 lb. Any state-waters Pacific cod guideline harvest level (GHL) remaining after September 1 will become available to all legal gear types.

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